

RG 263 CIA

RAOUL WALLENBERG FILE

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INFO: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational [REDACTED]

SPECIFIC— Interrogation Report

REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

1. Forwarded as attachments are the following reports written by the author of the reports forwarded with the above referenced dispatch:

A) Attachment "A" - This report was prompted by recent newspaper articles concerning attempts of the Swedish government to determine the fate and whereabouts of Raoul WALLENBERG, Swedish diplomat missing since the end of the war. Subject attests he saw WALLENBERG in early 1945 and recounts information he obtained subsequently concerning WALLENBERG's custody by the Soviets.

B) Attachment "B" - Personality report concerning one Hay Gyula KOSSUTH, Hungarian writer.

2. In addition to the above, there are forwarded to Headquarters for whatever interest they may have, four letters received by Subject from Bela VARGA and (fnu) PFETIFFER of the Hungarian National Council in New York, Zoltan DEAK of the Hungarian emigre newspaper "Az Ember" published in New York, and from Alexander St. IVANYI, D.D. of the First Church of Christ, Lancaster, Mass.

Attachments - A thru F, H/W

2 Encis.

Approved: [REDACTED]

DIST:

3-KE, w/1 cy Atts A thru F, H/W
3- [REDACTED] no atts.

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INDEX

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Bevezetőként szeretném megemlíteni, hogy jöttent mit Kaul Wallenberg sved diplomatával kapcsolatban papírra vetek hajlando vagyok barmit is nemzetközi forum előtt elmondani is vallani. Azt hiszem azon nagyon sokan ismertek, aki el mesznek egyik korlatlanuja. Mindenesetre nyilvánosság hozatalával egyelőre nem akarok meg előjönni, ezzel varok.

Kaul Wallenberg sved diplomata 1944-ben mikor Magyarországon a legnagyobb nyilas terror dult batran, elete kockázatával ezeken es tizezreken isykezett segiteni.

Mind Magyarországon, mind pedig itt a szabad vilagban es talan Svedorszagban is ugy tudjak, hogy Kaul Wallenberg csak a zsidokon segített es azok reszere adott ki sved-menlevelet amivel el lehetett erni, hogy közülük többször megmenekült, nem pusztult el. Ez tevedes, mert a hős sved diplomata a politikai üldözötteken is segített. Így én pontosan egyről tudok precizen.

Horvath Arpad, a Nemzeti Színház volt főrendezője, aki az ellenallasi mozgalomban "Laci bácsi" neven dolgozott, többször eszrevette, hogy követik. Egy alkalommal már annyiban a nyomában voltak, hogy a letartóztatást várta, mikor az uton feltűnt Kaul Wallenberg gépkocsija. Ismeretlenül leallította a kocsit, es az megallt. Az üldözö nyilasok elől be-rontott a kocsiba. Csak annyit mondott, nemetül:

"Hilfe, hilfe, ich bin komunist..."

Erre már a nyilas járőr ott volt a kocsinál. Gépfegyvert fogtak ra, mire Kaul Wallenberg az általa ismeretlen embert, aki mondta, hogy üldözik politikai magatartasa miatt - megvédte. Azt hangoztatta, hogy a kocsi sved terület... Szovaltas után a nyilasok elhagytak. Kaul Wallenberg így mentette meg Horvath Arpadot, ismeretlenül, elvitte a város másik vegebe es ott tette le. Mesőbb megis elfogtak, akkor pedig járt az erde-keben a Margitköruton Dominich Vilmos hadbiro századosnal is, de ott eredményt elerni nem tudott. Horvath Arpad elpusztult, de arról, hogy Kaul Wallenberg 1944 október elejen megmentette az életet rajtam kívül tud meg KUSINSZKY Endrene budapesti lakos, kell, hogy tudjon róla egykori felesége NEMENYI Lili operaénekesnő es ugy tudom, hogy tud meg erről PASZTOR Bela filmrendező, aki ma IZRAEL-ben él.

...

1945 januar vege 23-a körül a "as utcában levő Major szanatoriumból ket orosz katonatiszt igen udavarias formában elvitte KORNIS Gyula urat, a magyar képviselőház volt elnökét, hogy legyen szives es adjon néhány felvilágosítást. Supka Geza (lakik Budapest, Múzeum körut) arra kért, hogy menjen utána, nezzem meg hova viszik Gyula bácsit. A Budapest VI. kerület Lövéltérre vittek. A szamra nem emlékszem, ahogy a Király utcából jobbra fordultunk a második házba a teren. Ekor itt volt Kaul Wallenberg is. Ekkor es hallottam a nevet, egy szovjet katoná vezette at az udvar bejara. Kornis hamar orra kulva kijött, csak annyit mondott, hogy legyen 3

Raul Wallenber Sved diplomata 2

Megkerdeztem tőle: találkozott-e Raul Wallenberggel, láttam ott, az utcáról látni lehetett, ahogy ment fel a lépcsőn... Mintha ő lett volna... mondtam.

Kornis azt válaszolta, hogy tőle is kérdeztek: tényleg olyan sok emberen segített a sved.

...

Ezután hosszú ideig nem is hallottam semmit Raul Wallenbergéről. 1945 március 12-en rossz tehergépkocsival mentem le Budapestről Debrecenbe, ahol a szüleim laktak. Ekkor itt szexelt az Ideglenes Nemzeti Kormány is.

Debrecenben ismerkedtem meg egy orosz katonatiszttel, OLDNER Vladimir-ral, aki magyarul, oroszul, németül egészen jól és franciául kicsit beszelt. Ő abban az időben a szovjet hadsereg lapjánál az UJ SZO-nal dolgozott. Elmonda, hogy hányszor volt uton már Debrecen és Budapest között. A legemlékezetesebb útja azonban, mint mondta februárban volt. Ekkor egy olyan egyennel jött Debrecenbe, aki annyit meselt a háború borzalmairól, ami meg neki a harcedzett katonának is sok. Egy nyitott jipp kocsin egy szovjet tiszt egy civil urat kísért Debrecenbe, akit a Dery múzeum mellett levő orosz komandaturára vittek, majd innen pillanatok alatt átvittek a Kossuth utcában levő Vorosilov tábornok hadiszállására. Vorosilov ebben az időben Debrecenben a Kossuth utcában lakott, az egykori Balogh házban. Ez egy egyemeletes palota-szerű épület. Szemben a színházzal. Vele szemben akkor a minisztériumok voltak, a pénzügyi palotában. Oldner egy csomó adatot is kapott az utitárstól, aki nem volt más, mint Raul Wallenberg.

Ismét hangsúlyozom, hogy Raul Wallenberget egy szovjet tiszt vitte le Debrecenbe, ezzel a kocsival ment le Oldner Vladimir szovjet főhadnagy is (sajnos ő mint tanu ebben az ügyben már nem szerepelhet, mert Baden-Baden környéken a szovjet főhadiszállásra menve autoszerencsetlenség áldozata lett), ott előbb a parancsnokságon időztek rövid ideig, majd a sved diplomatát átvittek Vorosilov tábornok rezidenciájára. Ott mi történt - arról már többet eskü alatt nem merek vallani, mert nem tudom.

Ide tartozik meg, hogy Oldner Vladimir az akkor kapott anyag egyrészt fel is dolgozta, mert könyvet akart írni elmeryeiről, amit a háborúban szerzett. Ennek a kézírata ma is edesapjánál, Nassai Gezanál van, aki Budapesten egyetemi tanár.

*... a kocsit a kocsin 12-13. óráig volt meg, mert a kocsit a kocsin
... a kocsit a kocsin 12-13. óráig volt meg, mert a kocsit a kocsin*

WALLENBERG, Raoul Swedish diplomat.

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FAMIDI file

In this introduction I would like to declare that I am willing to testify and deposit under oath before any international authority (forum, everything that I will set down here on this paper in connection with WALLENBERG Raoul, Swedish diplomat.

I believe that I am one of those very few persons who are the chief witnesses of his disappearance. At any rate, I do not want to publish all this yet, I shall wait.

In 1944, when the greatest Arrow-cross (Nazi) terror raged in Hungary, WALLENBERG Raoul, Swedish diplomat tried to help thousands and tens of thousands bravely, risking his own life.

As it is known in Hungary and here in the free world and perhaps also in Sweden WALLENBERG Raoul helped only Jewish people by issuing them Swedish safe-conducts enabling several thousands of them to save their lives instead of perishing. This is an error, because the brave Swedish diplomat also helped the politically persecuted. I know of one particular case precisely.

HORVATH Arpad, the former chief stage director of the National Theater, who worked in the resistance movement under the cover-name of "Uncle Laci" discovered several times that he was being followed. At one occasion they (the Arrow-cross-Nazis) were so close behind him that he expected his arrest when the motorcar of WALLENBERG appeared on the road. Not knowing who was in the car, Uncle Laci, flagged down the vehicle, and when it stopped, he jumped in saying in German "Help, help, I am a communist....."

By this time the Arrow-cross-Nazi patrol reached the car already and raised their machine gun but WALLENBERG Raoul defended the unknown man who said that he was persecuted for his political belief. WALLENBERG repeated that the motorcar

WALLENBERG, Raoul

in Jewish territory..... After some exchange of words the Arrow-cross-men
left them. Thus, WALLENBERG Raoul saved HORVATH Arpad who was unknown to him, he
took HORVATH then to the other end of the city and let him go. Later, HORVATH
was arrested again and this time WALLENBERG intervened in his interest at the
military tribunal, on the Margit boulevard, by DOMINICH Vilmos, captain, military
judge, but could achieve no result. HORVATH Arpad perished, but the fact that
his life was saved by WALLENBERG Raoul at the beginning of October 1944 is known
besides me, to Mrs. KULCSZKY Endre, resident of Budapest; must be known by his
former wife at that time NEMENYI Lili, opera singer; and the way I know it, is
also known by PALLER Bela, film stage manager, who lives in Israel today.

. . .

At the end of January 1945, around the 23rd, two Russian army officers with very
courteous manner with themselves took -from the Vas street, Pajor sanatorium & KORNIS Gyula Dr.
the former president of the Hungarian House of Representatives, with the request
that he should be kind enough to give some information. SUPKA Geza (residing at
Museum Boulevard, Budapest) asked me to follow them to find out where they take
Uncle Gyula. They took him to the Lovas square, Budapest, VI district. I do
not remember the house number, as we turned to the right from the Kiraly street
it was the second house on the square. At this time WALLENBERG Raoul was here
also. I have seen him and heard his name, a Soviet soldier escorted him through
the courtyard. After a few hours KORNIS came out and said only that they were
very polite to him and to all those who were there.

I asked him: Did you meet WALLENBERG Raoul, I saw him, he could be seen from the
street as he ascended the stairs.... It seemed as though it was he - I said.
KORNIS answered, that they asked from him also: is it really true that the Jews
helped so many people.

. . .

WALLENBERG, Raoul.

For a long time after this, I did not hear anything of WALLENBERG Raoul. On the 12 of March 1945 I went with a truck, that was in bad condition, from Budapest to Debrecen where my parents lived. At this time the Temporary National Government also resided there.

While in Debrecen, I got acquainted with a Russian officer, OLDNER Vladimir, who spoke Hungarian, Russian, and German very well, and some French. At this time he worked at the "Uj Szó" (New Word) the Hungarian language newspaper of the Soviet army. He related to me how many times he had already traveled between Debrecen and Budapest. However, he said that his most memorable trip he made in February. At this time he traveled to Debrecen with an individual who related so much about the horrors of the war that it was too much, even for him, a battle seasoned soldier. A Soviet officer escorted to Debrecen in an open Jeep a civilian gentleman who was taken to the Russian head quarters (commandatura) - next to the Dery museum - and who in a few moments was taken from there to the head quarter of General VOROZHILOV on Kossuth street. At this time VOROZHILOV lived in the former Balogh house on Kossuth street in Debrecen. This house is a one¹ story palace like building opposite the theater. Facing this house in the Finance building ^{were} at this time the ministries. OLDNER received an amount of data from his traveling companion who was no one else but WALLENBERG Raoul.

Again I repeat, WALLENBERG Raoul was taken by a Soviet officer to Debrecen, OLDNER Vladimir, first lieutenant of the Soviet army also went with the same car - unfortunately OLDNER cannot appear as a witness in this case anymore, because he became a victim of an auto accident in the vicinity of Baden-Baden on his way to the Soviet general head quarters - first they spent a short time at the commandatura, and then the Swedish diplomat was taken to the residence of general VOROZHILOV. Under oath I dare not testify more because I do not know

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as to what happened there.

It also belongs to the matter, that OLDNER Vladimir elaborated part of the material received at this time because he wanted to publish in book form his experiences in the war. His manuscripts are still kept by his father KASAI Geza, who is a university professor at Budapest.

On that mentioned day, on the 12th or 13th of March, OLDNER would ~~like~~ have liked to have talked again to ALLENBERG Raoul, but he could not find him any more.

Hay Gyula összehajtható íróról.

Hay Gyula író a kommunista irodalmi arisztokráciához tartozik, mindenről tájékozott, ami ezen a téren történik, nemcsak magyar vonatkozásban, hanem szovjet vonatkozásban is. Őt egészen könnyen meg lehetne fogni és akkor Önök a kommunista világ szellemi, irodalmi, művészeti eleteréről első kezéből lehetnének informálva.

Senki más nem kellene hozzá csupán az, hogy Haynak nyugaton valamelyik színház valamelyik darabját előadja és ő erre kijöjjön. Ez pedig minden nehézség nélkül menne az ő részére.

...

Mármint Hay testvér van az én tudomásom szerint, Hay Gyula az író, Hay Károly a festő és Hay László a volt külkereskedelmi miniszter, jelenleg a Nemzeti Bank elnöke.

Hay Gyula résztvett már az 1919-es kommunista forradalomban is, mint egészen fiatal ember. A két világháború közötti időt külföldön töltötte, tehát nem Magyarországon élt. Legtöbb időt Berlinben töltött, ahol több színdarabot is előadtak (Isten, császár paraszt). Majd onnan úgy tudom, hogy Franciaországba ment és onnan ment át a Szovjetunióba. 1945-ben vagy 1946-ban tért haza Magyarországra. Itt hamarosan megismerkedett egy Majoros Eva nevezetű újságíróval a hitvese, aki 1945-ben, 1946-ban meg nyugati lapoknak - emlékezetem szerint amerikai lapnak is - a magyarországi tudósítója volt.

...

Hay hazatért után a magyar irodalomban igen előkelő helyet foglalt el. Csenedes modorával és humanista felfogásával azonban hatterbe került, Illes Béla lett helyette a "lathatatlan vezér". Közben valamiért - az okot nem tudom - összetűzésbe került Majorossal a Nemzeti Színház igazgatójával is. Emiatt aztán darabjai csak nagyon nehezen tudtak színpadra kerülni. Major teljesen el akarta nemítani, de a szovjet írószövetség lepért közbe, és ezek meg Majorral és a magyar népművelési minisztériummal is erősebbnek bizonyultak. Így az említett Isten, ~~császár~~ császár paraszton kívül az ELET HÍDJÁ című darabja is előad^{csúszda}ult, sőt most filmesítették azt meg. De Hay elnyomottnak érzi otthon magát.

...

Külföldön az elmúlt években több helyen bemutatták a darabjait. Ennek mindig örült. Egy igen lelkes TOKIO-i egyen két évvel ezelőtt kezdte fordítani egyik darabját. Ennek a híret én közöltem vele, mert a világbajnokságról visszakerkezett birkozók mondták. Hihetetlenül megörült neki. Azóta tudtommal a darabot ott elő is adták. Ha emlékezetem nem csal tavaly Svédországba vettem elő egyik darabját, oda ki akart utazni, de megbetegedett és nem tudott menni. A magyarországi mellőzésért ezek a külföldi előadások jelentik helyére a kárpótást, bár otthon is

... Szabó ide ... sztvett a part legfelsőbt ... szeti, irodalmi bizott-
ságnak a munkájában is.

Jelenleg emellett, hogy ír darabokat, regényeket - a Jás utcaban színház
színművészeti főiskola dramaturgiai tanszékének a vezetője.

...

May Gyula 170-172 cm. magas, körülbelül 75 kilo súlyu egyen lehet. Kora
52-56 ev. Széke hajja erősen őszül. Sűrű bőre van. Jellemzően
sokat dohányzik. A felesége Majoros Eva 35-40 ev körüli nő, sokkal több
dicsőség-vagy van benne, mint a férjében. Azt hiszem, hogy elsősorban
ő piszkálja a férjet, hogy ne hagyja magát elnyomni.

Gépkocsival rendelkeznek, amit azonban szinte csak a feleség használ.
Majoros Evát a férje révén a József Attila perem-színházhoz szerződtették
1955-ben dramaturgnak. A nőre mindent lehet mondani, csak azt nem, hogy
meggyőződéses kommunista. Közvetlen a háború után teljesen szociáldemok-
rata vonalon állt. Most vonalának kell mutatkoznia - ha másért nem,
a férje miatt.

...

Iró és újságíró körökben nem titok otthon, hogy May bejáratos a legfelső
kommunista politikus körökbe is. Mindenhol kellő tisztelettel fogadják,
és komoly tekintellyel is rendelkezik. Sokkal lenyegesebb azonban ennél,
hogy a szovjet Írószövetségben is igen nagy tekintélye van. (Sokan ezért
haragszanak rá otthon), de ezzel ő nem el vissza. Úgy tudom, hogy Magya-
ryval vagy Nyihonovval (nem tudom, hogy a kettő közül melyikkel) igen
szoros kapcsolatban van. Állandóan leveleznek, sőt az volt állay vendége
is az elmúlt években a Leányfalun levő villájában.

...

Megjelenése, beszéde, viselkedése teljesen polgari. Nem hangoztatja a
kommunista jelszavakat. Emebereket, akik ismer és meggyőződött róla, hogy
becsületese - igyekszik támogatni. Mindenről igen jól van értesülve.
Hihetetlen sok elkeseredés van benne, ez érthető mert elég sok alap-
talan elnyomás érte. Emiatt ha a híre a kommunizmusban nem is rengett
meg, de belül nagy túskevel jár. Kifeje nem igen mutatja, de nagyon hiu-
nak ismertem meg. Ennek oka részben, hogy évtizedeken keresztül művei
csak külföldön jelentek meg, vagy adtak azokat elő - és Magyarországon
alig ismertek. A hazai hírt ^{úgy} szerette volna megkapni, de ebben állandóan
gáncsoltak. - A másik ok, pedig amint már említettem a felesége.

...

Az írók köreiben igen nagy tekintélye van. Nem túl sokat jár azonban
közéjük. Az Írószövetség is igyekezven Major János kedvében járni gyak-
ran csipkedte meg. Ezeket szinte soha nélkül túrta, nagy nehézségekkel csak
magat rá a válaszára. Úgy tudom, de nem állítom, hogy az ellene való hecc
lőiesnek a fő irányítója hosszú időn keresztül REVAI József a part egyi
főideológusa volt.

....

Hay Gyula Bossuth díjáról 2

Amikor Budapesten van héténté legalább két-három alkalommal a Sztalin ut 104 szám alatt levő Ujságíró klubban szokott vacsorázni feleségével együtt.

Anyagi gondja a legjobb tudomásom szerint egyáltalán nincsen. A mellőzés ellenére is véleményem szerint feleségével együtt így is megkeresi a havi 15 000 forintot.

Budapesti lakásának a telefonszáma 160-034 vagy 039

...

Erősebb véleményem:

Most, hogy megindult Magyarországon az erjedés, Hay Gyula egészen merész hangú cikkben követelte az Irodalmi Ujságban a politikai változásokat is. Ha a közeljövőben Önök beszélnek vele, vagy vele és a feleségével igen sok eredményt érhetnek el. Ez a tehetséges ember úgy érzi, hogy lenéz. Pedig tehetségesebb, mint a legtöbb pártbíró, és régi kommunista, talán az a baj, hogy régi harcos... Ugy forr belül, mint a vulkan. És nem lenyegtelen az, hogy igen jól van informálva. Elsősorban természetesen a szellemi élet frontjáról, és itt is nemcsak a magyar ügyeket és azok kulcsa-titkait ismeri, hanem a szovjet és a kommunista világ művelődési, kulturális egyszoval szellemi életet ismeri és ott igen előkelő helyet tölt be.

Egy alkalommal beszélgetés közben felmerült Eisenhower elnök beszéde (Seni előtt volt valami nagyjelentőségű megnyilatkozása, amiben a vasfüggöny mögötti országokról is szó esett). - Hay akkor azt mondta, hogy csodálatosak ezek az amerikaiak. Már évtized alatt a világ leg-gazdagabb birodalmát hozták létre, jó lenne ott élni pár esztendő. Mire a felesége cinikusan jegyezte meg: "Ez csak rajtad mulik." Azt hiszem e beszélgetés elég világos...

HAY, Gyula, Nobel prize winner.

HAY Gyula, the writer, belongs to the literary aristocracy of the communist world. He is well informed about everything that happens in that field, not only in its Hungarian but also in ^{its} Soviet relation. He could be very easily won over and then you could have first hand information of the intellectual, literary, and artistic life of the communist world.

All that would be necessary is that one of HAY's plays should be presented by one of the western theaters and that he should come out for the occasion. This he could achieve without any difficulty.

. . .

As far as I know, there are three HAY brothers; HAY Gyula, the writer; HAY Karoly, the painter; and HAY Laszlo, the former minister of foreign commerce, who is now the president of the National Bank.

As a very young man HAY Gyula already participated in the 1919 communist revolution. He spent the time between the two world wars abroad and therefore did not live in Hungary. He spent the most time in Berlin where several of his plays were presented (God, Emperor, Peasant). As I know it, he went from there to France and then went on to the Soviet Union. In 1945 or 1946 he returned to Hungary and soon married MAJORS Eva, a newspaperwoman who had in 1945 and 1946 still been a correspondent of Western papers, and if I remember right, of an American paper as well.

. . .

After his return to Hungary, HAY occupied a very prominent position in Hungarian literature. However, ^{he with his} ~~his~~ quiet manner and humanistic conception of life ^{has} ~~was~~ been pushed in the background and instead of him, ILLES Bela became the "invisible literary leader". In the meantime for some reason he was in a controversy with MAJOR Tamas, director of the National Theater. (I do not know what caused this,

HAY, Gyula writer.

Therefore, HAY's plays could be presented only with great difficulties. KAJDA wanted to silence him completely but the Federation of the Soviet Writers intervened and they (the Federation) proved to be stronger than KAJDA, and even stronger than the Hungarian Ministry of Public Education. So, the mentioned play (God, Emperor, Peasant.) and another one "The bridge of life" have been produced, in fact the latter has been adapted for screen recently. Still, HAY feels oppressed at home (in Hungary).

. . .

His plays have been presented at several places abroad in the past years. He was always happy about this. A very enthusiastic Tokyo man started to translate one of his plays about two years ago. HAY was incredibly happy to receive this news from me which I learned from the wrestlers returning from the world championship games. As I know it, the play has been presented there since. If my memory does not deceive me, one of his plays was going to be presented in Sweden last year. HAY wanted to go there but because he became ill he could not go. These foreign presentations mean a compensation to him for the slighting suffered in Hungary, although even at home many people bow to him not only for his knowledge but also for his political influence. However, HAY does not have a fighting spirit.

. . .

For a longer time HAY participated in the work of the uppermost artistic and literary committee of the party.

At present, besides writing plays and novels, HAY is the head of the dramaturgical faculty of the high school of theatrical art.

. . .

HAY Gyula is 170-172 cm. tall, weighs about 75 kilograms. He is about 52-56 years old, has black hair, strongly greying, has dark complexion. He is a very strong boxer. His wife KAJDA Eva, is a woman of about 35-40 years, is much

HAY, Gyula writer.

more ambitious than her husband. I believe that she helps her husband, that he should not let himself be oppressed.

They have a motorcar that is used almost exclusively by the wife. In 1955, MAJOROS EVA through her husband was contracted as a dramaturgist to the Jozsef Attila studio theater. Everything can be said about the woman, save that she is a convinced communist. Immediately after the war she has been completely on the socialist line. Now, she has to show that she is on the party line, if for nothing else but for her husband's sake.

. . . .

It is no secret at home among writers and newspapermen that HAY frequents the highest communist political circles. He is received everywhere with due respect and, in fact, he enjoys a serious prestige. It is more important however, that he also has a very great prestige in the Federation of Soviet writers. Many people at home are angry at him for this, but HAY does not abuse this advantage. As I know it, HAY is in very close connection with FADYAJEV (FADYAJEV?) or TYLICHONOV (TYLICHONOV?) ;/I do not know which one of the two/. They correspond regularly and in the past years he has been a house guest in HAY's villa at Leanyfalva.

. . . .

HAY's appearance, speech and behavior is completely middle class (bourgeois). He does not repeat communist slogans. He tries to help and support the people whom he learns to know and finds honest. He is well informed about everything. He has an incredible great amount of bitterness in himself which is understandable since he suffered enough unjustified oppression. For this reason, even if his faith in communism has not been shaken, he still bears, inside, a big thorn. He does not show this on the surface but I learned to know him as a very vain man. The reason lies partly in the fact that for decades his

- 4 -

MAY, writer.

works have been published and presented only abroad and he was barely known in Hungary. He wanted to achieve recognition at home but in this endeavor he has always been thwarted. The other reason, as I mentioned before, is his wife.

. . .

MAY enjoys a great respect among the writers, however, he does not frequent them too often. The Federation of writers, playing up to MAJOR Tamas very often needled MAY. MAY tolerated this needling almost without words, and very seldom deigned to answer. I do not state it, but the way I know it, is that for a long time the ^{main} instigator of these intrigues against MAY has been REVAI Joseph, one of the chief ideologists of the party.

When in Budapest, MAY together with his wife, usually has dinner at least two or three times weekly at the Newspapermen's club, No. 101, Stalin street. According to my best knowledge, he has no financial worries at all. It is my opinion, despite the fact that he is neglected, he still earns 15 000 forints per month jointly with his wife.

His Budapest home telephone: 160-034 or 039.

. . .

My personal opinion:

NOW that the fermentation process has started in Hungary, MAY Gyula, in a truly daring voiced article in the "Irodalmi Ujsag" (Literary News) demanded political changes. If in the near future you should talk to him, or with him and his wife, very great results could be achieved. This talented man feels that he is looked down upon. Whereas, he is more talented than most party faithful writers and he is an old communist, perhaps the trouble is that he is one of the old fighters. Inside he is boiling like a volcano. It is not unimportant that he is very well informed. Naturally, in the first place he is well informed about the front of the intellectual life, and ~~is a~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~place~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~well~~ ~~informed~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~front~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~intellectual~~ ~~life~~, and ~~is~~ ~~a~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~place~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~well~~ ~~informed~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~front~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~intellectual~~ ~~life~~, and ~~is~~ ~~a~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~place~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~well~~ ~~informed~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~front~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~intellectual~~ ~~life~~, and ~~is~~ ~~a~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~place~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~well~~ ~~informed~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~front~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~intellectual~~ ~~life~~, and ~~is~~ ~~a~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~place~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~well~~ ~~informed~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~front~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~intellectual~~ ~~life~~, and ~~is~~ ~~a~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~place~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~well~~ ~~informed~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~front~~ ~~of~~ 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MAY, Gyula writer.

not only knows the Hungarian intellectual life and its behind the stage secrets but also he knows the educational, cultural, in one word the intellectual life of the Soviets and the communist world, and there he occupies a very prominent position.

At one occasion President Eisenhower's speech came up in conversation. (He made a declaration of great importance before the Geneva conference, in which the countries behind the iron curtain were also mentioned.) At this time MAY said, " These Americans are wonderful. In a few decades they created the richest country of the world. It would be nice to live there a few years. " To this, his wife sarcastically remarked: " That is only up to you. "

I believe that this conversation is clear enough.....

WALLENBERG, Raoul Swedish diplomat.

In this introduction I would like to declare that I am willing to testify and deposit under oath before any international authority (forum) everything that I will set down here on this paper in connection with WALLENBERG Raoul, Swedish diplomat.

I believe that I am one of those very few persons who are the chief witnesses of his disappearance. At any rate, I do not want to publish all this yet, I shall wait.

In 1944, when the greatest Arrow-cross (Nazi) terror raged in Hungary, WALLENBERG Raoul, Swedish diplomat tried to help thousands and ~~thens~~ of thousands bravely, risking his own life.

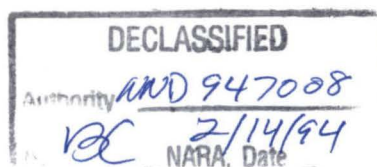
believed.
As ~~It~~ is known, in Hungary and here in the free world and perhaps also in Sweden

WALLENBERG Raoul helped only Jewish people by issuing them Swedish safe-conducts enabling several thousands of them to save their lives instead of perishing.

This is an error, because the brave Swedish diplomat also helped the politically persecuted. I know of one particular case precisely.

HORVATH Arpad, the former chief stage director of the National Theater, who worked in the resistance movement under the cover-name of "Uncle Laci" discovered several times that he was being followed. ^{On} At one occasion they (the Arrow-cross-Nazis) were so close behind him that he expected his arrest when the motorcar of WALLENBERG appeared on the road. Not knowing who was in the car, Uncle Laci, flagged down the vehicle, and when it stopped, he jumped in saying in German "Help, help, I am a communist....."

By this time the Arrow-cross-Nazi patrol reached the car already and raised their machine gun but WALLENBERG Raoul defended the unknown man who said that he was persecuted for his political belief. WALLENBERG repeated that the motorcar



WALLENBERG, Raoul

is Swedish territory..... After some exchange of words the Arrow-cross-Nazis left them. Thus, WALLENBERG Raoul saved HORVATH Arpad who was unknown to him, he took HORVATH then to the other end of the city and let him go. Later, HORVATH was arrested again and this time WALLENBERG intervened in his interest at the military tribunal, on the Margit boulevard, by DOMINICH Vilmos, captain, military judge, but could achieve no results. HORVATH Arpad perished, but the fact that his life was saved by WALLENBERG Raoul at the beginning of October 1944 is known besides me, to MRS. KUSINSZKY Endre, resident of Budapest; must be known by his former wife at that time NEMENYI Lili, opera singer; and the way I know it, is also known by PASZTOR Bela, film stage manager, who lives in Israel today.

. . .

At the end of January 1945, around the 25rd, two Russian army officers with very courteous manner took with themselves -from the Vas street, Pajor sanatorium @ KORNIS Gyula Dr. the former president of the Hungarian House of Representatives, with the request that he should be kind enough to give some information. SUPKA Geza (residing at Museum Boulevard, Budapest) asked me to follow them to find out where they take Uncle Gyula. They took him to the Lovolds square, Budapest, VI district. I do not remember the house number, as we turned to the right from the Kiraly street it was the second house on the square. At this time WALLENBERG Raoul was here also. I have seen him and heard his name, a Soviet soldier escorted him through the courtyard. After a few hours KORNIS came out and said only that they were very polite to him and to all those who were there.

I asked him: Did you meet WALLENBERG Raoul, I saw him, he could be seen from the street as he ascended the stairs.... It seemed as though it was he - I said. KORNIS answered, that they asked from him also: is it really true that the Swede helped so many people.

. . .

WALLENBERG, Raoul

For a long time after this, I did not hear anything of WALLENBERG Raoul. On the 12 of March 1945 I went with a truck, that was in bad condition, from Budapest to Debrecen where my parents lived. At this time the Temporary National Government also resided there.

While in Debrecen, I got acquainted with a Russian officer, OLDNER Vladimir, who spoke Hungarian, Russian, and German very well, and some French. At this time he worked at the "Uj Szó" (New Word) the Hungarian language newspaper of the Soviet army. He related to me how many times he had already traveled between Debrecen and Budapest. However, he said that his most memorable trip he made in February. At this time he traveled to Debrecen with an individual who related so much about the horrors of the war that it was too much, even for him, a battle seasoned soldier. A Soviet officer escorted to Debrecen in an open Jeep a civilian gentleman who was taken to the Russian head quarters (commandatura) -next to the Dery museum- and who in a few moments was taken from there to the head quarter of General VOROSHILOV on Kossuth street. At this time VOROSHILOV lived in the former Balogh house on Kossuth street in Debrecen. This house is a one^I story palace like building opposite the theater. Facing this house in the Finance building^{were} at this time the ministries. OLDNER received an amount of data from his traveling companion who was no one else but WALLENBERG Raoul.

Again I repeat, WALLENBERG Raoul was taken by a Soviet officer to Debrecen, OLDNER Vladimir, first lieutenant of the Soviet army also went with the same car - unfortunately OLDNER cannot appear as a witness in this case anymore, because he became a victim of an auto accident in the vicinity of Baden-Baden on his way to the Soviet general head quarters - first they spent a short time at the commandatura, and then the Swedish diplomat was taken to the residence of general VOROSHILOV. Under oath I dare not testify more because I do not know

as to what happened there.

It also belongs to the matter, that OLDNER Vladimir elaborated part of the material received at this time because he wanted to publish in book form his experiences in the war. His manuscripts are still kept by his father KASSAI Geza, who is a university professor at Budapest.

On that mentioned day, on the 12th or 13th of March, OLDNER would ~~xxxx~~ have liked to have talked again to WALLENBERG Raoul, but he could not find him any-
more.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA AIR
(Specify Air or Sea Route)

DISPATCH NO. [REDACTED]

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

JUL 1956

TO [REDACTED]

DATE _____

FROM Chief, WH

SUBJECT GENERAL [REDACTED]
SPECIFIC Transmittal of report on Raoul WALLINER

ACTION REQUIRED: [REDACTED]

1. Transmitted herewith [REDACTED] is a resume of information supplied by a recent Hungarian defector concerning the missing Swedish diplomat, Raoul WALLINER. It should be noted that the source has since returned to Hungary. This report is one of several elicited from him prior to his "redefection".

2. The attached information is obviously questionable, but it should be of some interest to the Swedes. Perhaps the report might serve as an excuse for the Chief of Station to meet with one of the [REDACTED]

Distribution:

- 2 - Stoc w/encl
- 2 - HK-1 w/encl
- 1 - C/H w/encl
- 1 - RI w/o encl

24 July 1956
AL-1/Am:aal

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION

FORM NO. 51-29
JUN 1949

DI COPY

1. Hungarian defector whose bona fides have not been established.
Since supplying this information, source has reflected to Hungary.

1. In 1944, the Swedish diplomat Axel WALLINER risked his life to help victims of the Nazi terror in Hungary. By issuing Swedish safe-conduct passes, he helped to save thousands of persons who otherwise would have perished. It is generally believed that WALLINER helped only Jews. This is an error, for the brave Swedish diplomat helped the politically persecuted as well. The case of Arpad HORVATH is an example.

2. HORVATH, the former chief stage director of the National Theater, worked in the resistance movement under the cover name of "Uncle Laci." Several times he had discovered that he was being followed by the "Arrow-Cross Nazis" (Hungarian Nazi Party), and once he was so closely pursued that his arrest seemed imminent. On this occasion a motorcar driven by WALLINER was passing by, and HORVATH flagged down the vehicle. When it stopped, HORVATH jumped in and exclaimed in German, "Help! Help! I am a Communist...." By this time the pursuing Nazi patrol reached the car, and leveled their weapons at HORVATH. WALLINER protected the unknown man by claiming the motorcar to be Swedish territory and hence outside the jurisdiction of the Nazi patrol. After an exchange of words, the patrol left them, and WALLINER drove HORVATH to the other end of the city where he let him go. Later HORVATH was arrested and tried by a military tribunal. WALLINER again intervened in his behalf at the trial, but to no avail. HORVATH perished, but the fact that WALLINER saved his life in October 1944 is known to Lili MANNING, an opera singer who was HORVATH's former wife, and to Bela PASERICH, a film stage manager who lives in Israel today.

3. At the end of January 1945, Dr. Gyula KORNIS, former president of the Hungarian House of Representatives, was taken by two Russian army officers to a house in Lovolde Square, in the VI district of Budapest. Source followed them to find out where they were taking "Uncle Gyula," and gave the following description of the address: "I do not remember the house number, but as we turned to the right from the Kiraly street, it was the second house on the square." At this address, source observed a Soviet soldier escorting WALLINER through the courtyard, and watched him ascend the stairs. After a few hours, KORNIS came out of the house. He told source that the Russians had asked him a number of questions, including whether or not it was really true that WALLINER had helped so many people.

4. In March 1945, [redacted] a Russian officer, 1st Lieutenant Vladimir [redacted], who worked for U-520 (New World), the Hungarian language newspaper of the Soviet Army. This officer told of escorting WALLINER from Budapest to Belresen in February 1945 in an open jeep. On the way, the Swedish diplomat related stories about the horrors of the war which shocked even the battle-hardened officer. [redacted] claimed to have received an "amount of data" from WALLINER.

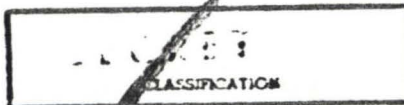
5. WALLINER escorted/

... escorted [redacted] to the Soviet Kommandatura next to the
Museum, and a short time later to the residence of General [redacted]
on Kossuth Street in Debrecen, a one-story [redacted]-like building op,osite
the Theater and Finance Building. [redacted] he had tried to
contact [redacted] early in March 1945, but had been unable to locate him.
Unfortunately [redacted] was killed in an auto accident near Baden-Baden. He
had planned to publish his memoirs after the war, however, and his manu-
scripts are still kept by his father, Geza [redacted], who is a university pro-
fessor in Budapest.

very obscure, and a short time later to the residence of General [redacted] on Kossuth Street in [redacted], a one-story, pale yellow building opposite the Theater and Finance Building. [redacted] told source [redacted] he had tried to contact [redacted] in early in March 1941, but had been unable to locate him. Unfortunately [redacted] was killed in an auto accident near Baden-Baden. He had planned to publish his memoirs after the war, however, and his manuscripts are still kept by his father, [redacted], who is a university professor in Budapest.

VIA AIR POUCH
(Specify Air or Sea Pouch)

DISPATCH NO. CSSA-1:995



TO Chief, WE

DATE 3 August 1956

FROM 

SUBJECT GENERAL OPERATIONAL/Raoul Wallenberg
SPECIFIC Transmittal of Magazine article #201-5929

1. Forwarded herewith are two issues of Vecko Journalen containing a two part article on Raoul WALLENBERG.

2. These articles are forwarded to Headquarters for information and contain the latest available information from overt sources.



1 August 1956

Enclosures:

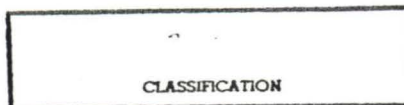
1. Vecko Journalen Magazine(2)

Distribution:

3 - Hdqts. w/encl.(2 issues)
2 -  w/o encl.

Encl

FORM NO. 51-28A
MAR. 1949



VIA AIR POUCH
Specify Air or Sea Pouch

DISPATCH NO. [REDACTED]

201-5929

Secret

CLASSIFICATION

TO Chief, WE

DATE 24 August 1956

FROM [REDACTED]

SUBJECT | GENERAL Operational/Paul Wallenberg
| SPECIFIC Transmittal of Magazine Article

REFERENCE: [REDACTED] of 3 August 1956

1. Forwarded herewith are two additional issues of Vecko Journalen containing two articles on Subject.

2. These articles are forwarded to Headquarters for information.

22 August 1956

Enclosures:

Vecko Journalen, as noted

Distribution:

3 - Hdqts, w/encls. spl cy ea
2 - [REDACTED] w/o encls.

Encl

Secret

CLASSIFICATION

FORM NO. 51-28A
MAR. 1949

AIR POUCH

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(When a signature is required)

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM: Embassy STOCKHOLM

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

October 9, 1956

REF:

4004249

Approved	Disapproved	Comments
For Dept	For State	
Use Only	Use Only	

SUBJECT: NEW SWEDISH REPRESENTATION TO MOSCOW ON WALLENBERG CASE

The Swedish Foreign Office announced on September 28, 1956 that a "new serious reminder" had been made in Moscow the day before on the Raoul WALLENBERG case.

In an unusually sharp memorandum, by Swedish standards, the Foreign Office stated, according to a communique which it issued to the press:

"In a Memorandum handed by the Swedish Charge d'Affaires to Vice Foreign Minister ZACHAROV it was first recalled that the Soviet Government in connection with Prime Minister ERLANDER'S and Interior Minister HEDLUND'S visit to Moscow and March-early April 1956 had undertaken to study carefully the exhaustive material at that time submitted by Sweden and to advise the Swedish Government of the result of this study. The Memorandum then stated that it is consequently now almost half a year since the Soviet Government promised to start its new investigations. The Swedish Government establishes that during this time, when repeated reminders have been made to the Soviet authorities, it has not received any information on the result of the investigations. Because of this, it wishes to underscore anew the enormous importance it attaches to this affair. It has been a source of great disappointment both for the Swedish Government and the Swedish public that the Soviet Government has not even seen fit to supply any information on what has thus far transpired through the investigations."

With the sole exception of the Communist organs, the entire Swedish press welcomed this new reminder. In an unusual departure from its normal practice with the press the Foreign Office confirmed that this was an especially sharply worded representation. The unanimous list of the press reaction to the reminder was to lay emphasis on the strong public demand that Moscow stop irritating Swedish patience and at last clarify the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of Raoul Wallenberg. It was recalled that after the Moscow visit of Prime Minister Erlander and Interior Minister Hedlund this spring and their subsequent presentation of material in Swedish possession to the

JS:wee/mz

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WALLENBERG

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(Classification)

2
386
Stockholm

Soviet authorities documenting Wallenberg's whereabouts on various occasions in different Russian prisons and concentration camps, the following had happened:

- (1) During the Stockholm visit last May of a delegation from the Supreme Soviet the Russians requested, and later received, "supplementary information on the testimony concerning Wallenberg in Swedish hands.
- (2) In June, 1956 the Swedish Foreign Office informed the press that the Government was still waiting for a Soviet reply.
- (3) In July, 1956 Soviet Ambassador RODIONOV called on the Foreign Office and advised that the results of the investigation into the Wallenberg case made by the Soviet authorities would be forthcoming "shortly".
- (4) During August the Raoul Wallenberg Committee (made up of 25 prominent private citizens) appealed to the Government to summon the Foreign Relations Council for consultations on what steps to take next.

An editorial in semi-official Social Democratic Morgon Tidningen on September 29, which has been widely quoted and endorsed by other papers, stated that there should be no doubt among the Soviet leaders that the Swedish people looked upon the lack of Soviet information on the Wallenberg case as a highly serious matter:

"Yet, the reply is still missing. Why? This is a question which the Swedish nation asks itself. If there is any seriousness at all behind the East's talk about a desire to bring about friendly relations, it should be a natural thing that what has become a whole nation's concern not be ignored but, instead, an open and honest account be given of the measures taken and of the results achieved. The renewed Swedish reminder is well motivated. The serious tone corresponds to the sentiments among the Swedish people in this matter. Why is the Soviet Union silent on Wallenberg?"

Liberal Dagens Nyheter September 29, noting that it is now more than eleven years since Raoul Wallenberg disappeared, found that it was "about time" for the Swedish Foreign Office to employ strong words in the latest note to Moscow. This paper continued.

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"It is known that on Sweden's part the most detailed information has been submitted to Moscow concerning Raoul Wallenberg's imprisonment in Russia. It is out of the question for the Soviet authorities not to have been able to trace him. In the Wallenberg case the Soviet Union's brazen nonchalance vis-a-vis elementary Swedish demands has crystallized. If even after the latest Swedish note the Russian reply should not come forward, all that remains for the Swedish Government is to place the cards on the table and give an exhaustive account of all the facts in the case of Wallenberg."

Conservative Sydsvenska Dagbladet wrote October 2:

"The Swedish Government's note in the Wallenberg affair was certainly warranted. It should have come months ago. The nonchalance shown by the Soviet authorities in this matter is unbelievable. Six months have past since the Soviet leaders promised to supply information on Wallenberg's fate. Since then Moscow has been silent. We have been given one more proof of how little Moscow cares about the most well-founded and legitimate Swedish demands."

The Foreign Office is very much concerned about the Raoul Wallenberg case and has done a tremendous amount of work to obtain information about this missing Swede who at the time of his disappearance possessed diplomatic status. Of necessity a large portion of this work has been done without publicity and under classified circumstances. However, public opinion in the past, as expressed in several of the leading papers, has implied that the Foreign Office has not done all that it might to secure the release of Wallenberg. The Foreign Office has been somewhat frustrated in not being able to answer this criticism without jeopardizing the work it was actually doing. Considerable pressure has been exerted on the Foreign Office to publish all of the material in its possession concerning Wallenberg. So far the Foreign Office has been hesitant to do this because much of the material has been obtained from foreign sources and, furthermore, it does not want to establish any sort of precedent. Feeling is so high in official Swedish circles over this case, however, that if some sort of satisfactory reply is not received soon from the USSR the Foreign Office will approve the publication of a report which will illustrate the intransigence of the Soviet Government in following up leads supplied by the Swedish Government.

For the Charge d'Affaires ad interim:

Joseph Sweeney
First Secretary of Embassy

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AIR 10004

INT 7062

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
PATCH

Ambassy STOCKHOLM

442

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

October 12, 1956

Despatch 386, October 9, 1956

4010902

Additional information on Swedish Representation to Moscow on Wallenberg Case.

WALLENBERG, ARNE

The acting head of the Political Section, Bureau Chief Bergström, volunteered the following additional information on the recent Swedish reminder to Moscow on the Wallenberg case:

(1) The Swedish reminder that the Soviet Union had made no recent response on the Wallenberg case was deliberately delivered in Moscow rather than in Stockholm. The reason for this action stems from the Moscow visit of Prime Minister Erlander and his party. When these high ranking Swedish officials discussed the Wallenberg case with their Soviet counterparts, they had the feeling that the Soviet leaders had not previously realized the importance Sweden attached to this case. The possibility was put forward by the Foreign Office that Ambassador Iodionov had not accurately reported Swedish reaction on Wallenberg. Therefore, Foreign Minister Undén decided that this reminder to the Soviet Union should be delivered in Moscow.

(2) The language of this reminder is unusually strong for a diplomatic communication between the Swedish Government and the Government of the Soviet Union. A milder but strong draft had initially been prepared in the Foreign Office and approved by everyone except by the Foreign Minister. When Foreign Minister Undén went over the draft with the Prime Minister, he deliberately strengthened several of the expressions. In fact, the Foreign Office believed the language so strong that they decided to publish only a gist rather than the full text.

(3) Because pressure is mounting in Swedish official circles for the publication of some sort of background study on the Wallenberg case, the Foreign Office wanted to assure the Embassy that if any publication should result, it would not compromise materials concerning Wallenberg given by any other government to Sweden. Bureau Chief Bergström emphasized that the Foreign Office had been grateful for American and other help in obtaining information about Wallenberg, and it had no intention of compromising these sources. The present thinking in the Foreign Office regarding publication of material on Wallenberg is that there should be two publications. The first should be a mimeographed press release which would contain only the official communications exchanged between the Swedish

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WALLENBERG RG-
FILE

See memo 100

and Soviet governments. Their statements, the Foreign Office feels, could speak for themselves and contribute to the vindication of the Soviet Union. The second contemplated publication would be a more elaborate glossy paper interpretation of the Wallenberg story. This in effect would mean a presentation of the Swedish case.

(4) The Foreign Office does not have information on whether or not Wallenberg is alive, but feels that it must proceed on the basis that he is. There is no hint of speculation in the Foreign Office as to whether or not Wallenberg will be returned in the immediate future.

Le Ministre d'Affaires et Interne

Joseph Sweeney
First Secretary of Embassy

THE MYSTERY OF A WAR HERO

BY JOSEPH L. LICHTEL

Reprinted from the *NY Herald*

TWELVE years ago a 32-year-old business man departed from his native Sweden on a wartime voyage. On July 9, 1941, he arrived in Nazi-occupied Budapest. He had been selected to rescue as many of Hungary's hapless Jews (there were 500,000) as his humanity as the owner of a neutral nation could manage.

His name was **Rozsa Wallenberg**.

His task was incredible and gigantic.

As broken as it was courageous, he had been selected to rescue as many of Hungary's hapless Jews (there were 500,000) as his humanity as the owner of a neutral nation could manage.

Rozsa Wallenberg had come to have the free world was aware that for very real months the Nazi movement in Hungary had been planning systematic genocide, the same inhuman plan of forced deportations and mass liquidations that had destroyed the Jewish community of Poland. The horrors and tortures that had befallen Jews in the ghettos of Warsaw, Lodz and Cracow were now to descend on Hungary.

Each week the list of deportees ran into the hundreds. Many of the victims never reached the concentration camps they were marked for; they died of hunger or dysentery, or tragically killed themselves on the way. Appeals to Admiral Horthy, the Hungarian regent, that he force a halt to the butchery had little effect. The pleas of the Pope, of Sweden's King Gustaf and other neutral leaders, were spurned. A warning from President Franklin D. Roosevelt was ignored. Many round-ups were routine

known in Hungary on the day. Rozsa Wallenberg arrived there.

Wallenberg was a Christian gentleman, a son of a distinguished Swedish family. His father was a well-known banker; his grandfather had been an ambassador to Turkey and Japan. United States. But he returned to Sweden after his schooling to establish himself successfully in the export-

business. He knew little about Jews, few about Jewish affairs. Before the war he had visited Palestine, more as a tourist than as an observer of political or social developments. The rescue of Hungary's Jews had been planned by Swedish and American authorities in Stockholm. Wallenberg had been asked to lead the undertaking; he accepted promptly. He was a bachelor and—to repeat—a Christian in the finest tradition.

Rozsa Wallenberg proved his noble at once. To combat the mass deportations he began rescue operations on an equally wholesale and completely un-

heard of, scale. He started by recruiting Swedish to 600 persons and their families—most of whom were Jews who, for various reasons, had been accorded priority status in his rescue plan. The priority non-Jews whom Wallenberg swiftly gathered into his fold were leaders of Hungary's anti-Nazi underground. As members of a legion, the new

"Swedish officials" found immediate safety in their diplomatic status. The success of this happy band prompted Wallenberg to play it to the hilt. Within weeks he was issuing Swedish passports to anybody and everybody who could, in the remotest way, show some prior contact with Sweden. These passports saved hundreds more.

But thousands were being deported. So Wallenberg next challenged the Nazi formation by designing a "pro-Active passport" which he had printed in Sweden's colors and which bore the embassy's seal and signature. This document bluntly affirmed that its holder was under the protection of the King of Sweden—a broad hint to Hungarian officials that a passport owner was not to be molested in any way?

Hungarian Nazis, frustrated and angry, nonetheless respected the hint. They were fearful to do otherwise. By that time, the war was going badly for Hitler and Wallenberg had a disturbing habit of reminding them of a day of reckoning.

The protective passport trick was used widely. Soon the Swedish Red Cross in Budapest began distributing them, as did the embassies of several neutral nations and the Papal Nuncio. Finally, several underground groups went to work circulating forged copies. Within weeks the number of protective passports mounted to tens of thousands. The Nazis tried hard to invalidate the forgeries. The Gestapo visited Wallenberg regularly, bringing him obvious forgeries to examine. Wallenberg studied them carefully. But his answer was always the same: "They're authentic," he insisted.

Wallenberg carried his rescue operation inside the courts of the enemy. He planned agents with both the Hungarian police and the Gestapo. In that way he sometimes got his hands on a copy of the daily list of Jews placed under arrest. Promptly, Wallenberg prepared protective passports for them, personally bringing the documents to deportation headquarters. There he forced the authorities to give up a large part, if not all, of the imprisoned group. Wallenberg acted with utter fearlessness in his confrontations with the Nazis. His personal heroism was reflected in the persistent ways in which he harassed their rule. But always he maintained the correct, dignified demeanor of the diplomat. Nazi transport commanders, assigned to deliver truckloads of Jews to nearby concentration camps, often were dismayed to find that Wallenberg had attached himself to their motor caravans. He rode in a Red Cross truck which bore food, medicine and clothing for the Jewish victims. With Swiss legation workers and Roman Catholic nuns to assist him on these mercy errands, Wallenberg became a common sight on the dusty roads leading out of Budapest.

The Nazis were afraid to harm him in public. But they marked him for murder and Wallenberg found himself in all sorts of break accidents. He was threatened, shot at, run down by army tanks and trucks. He always escaped—to persist with his urgent mission.

When Hungary's pro-Nazi Szalasi government, eager to facilitate the mass deportations, tried thwarting Wallenberg and the underground by ordering a holiday blockade of Jews, Wallenberg quietly fought back by organizing a Jewish commando group. The commandos successfully infiltrated the



RAOUL WALLENBERG

A sketch made eleven years ago.

blockade to bring food and supplies to the embattled Jewish families. Later, with the assistance of the Swedish Red Cross and underground Zionist groups, Wallenberg established several children's centers which he insisted were Red Cross operations protected by Sweden's international immunity. In that way he saved at least 8,000 children from certain death.

Again, when Budapest Jews were ordered to enter a newly created ghetto, Wallenberg popped up with 32 large houses which he rented and placed un-

der Swedish immunity. He filled the houses with thousands of Jews. Other neutral embassies followed his example, creating among themselves an international ghetto, probably the only one in history.

By December, six months after Wallenberg's arrival in the city, Russian troops had begun their siege of Budapest. In frenzied retaliation, the Arrow Cross movement, Hungary's Nazi gang, planned a mass murder of the remaining Jews. Wallenberg learned of it and

Wallenberg Building: that a busy avenue suddenly bears his name. Nor is it likely that Wallenberg knows of the petition signed by 14,000 Swedish citizens demanding an explanation of his fate, or that Sweden's Prime Minister, on a recent visit to the Kremlin, kept posing an embarrassing question to his Soviet hosts: "What happened to Kaoul Wallenberg?"

The Communists are uncommunicative about it. Shortly after Wallenberg's sudden disappearance, Russian officials reported that he was "under the protection of the Russian Army." Since then, however, they refuse to acknowledge that they ever heard of him.

In 1946, a report filtered through the Iron Curtain that Wallenberg was in a Ukrainian prison camp. Later, he was reported a prisoner in the most dreaded NKVD camp in Moscow. And last year, several German prisoners of war, returning from Russia, recalled "Kaoul Wilberg, a Swedish Red Cross officer" as an inmate at a camp in Poland in Central Asia. "This Wilberg," they said, "was a tuberculosis case."

None of these rumors has been corroborated. To all inquiries, the Soviets shrug and say nothing. Thus, the late of Kaoul Wallenberg, one of war's noblest heroes, is yet to be answered for.

Dr. Joseph L. Lichten was prior to World War II in the diplomatic service of the Polish Government, but escaped to Sweden when the Soviet Union occupied Eastern Poland. From 1941 to 1945 he was attached to the Embassy of the Polish Government-in-Exile in Washington as consultant on Eastern European affairs and nationality problems. Since 1945 he has been director of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

On January 13, 1945, four days before Soviet troops were to seize full control of Budapest, Wallenberg decided to seek out their military chiefs for assistance in rescuing Jews still trapped in the ghetto. He was referred to a Major Demchenko and, to his surprise, was placed under guard. Wallenberg reappeared at his office four days later, in the wake of the liberating troops. Three Russian soldiers accompanied him. "I am going to see Marshal Malinovsky [the Soviet commander]," Wallenberg informed his co-workers. He added, somewhat tactfully, "I don't know whether I am going as a prisoner or as a guest."

Kaoul Wallenberg left the office, the three armed soldiers with him. He has not been heard of since. . . .

If Wallenberg is still alive he is probably unaware that the thousands of families he rescued and protected, in their gratitude, built a monument in his honor: that a pavilion of Budapest's Jewish Central Hospital is now called